

HOUSE RESOLUTION 5

By Naifeh

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Ms. Mary Lane for her notable service as Ms. Tennessee Senior America 2002.

WHEREAS, It is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as superlative ambassadors for the Volunteer State; and

WHEREAS, Mary Lane is one such noteworthy person, whose reign as Ms. Tennessee Senior America can only be categorized as remarkable and inspirational; and

WHEREAS, The Ms. Senior America Pageant is "a search for the gracious lady who best exemplifies the dignity, maturity, and inner beauty of all senior Americans;" and

WHEREAS, Ms. Lane honorably represents the Ms. Senior America Pageant, the world's first pageant to honor women who have reached the "Age of Elegance," and she exemplifies the pageant's philosophy that "seniors are the foundation of America, and our most valuable treasure;" and

WHEREAS, After graduating from high school in her birthplace of Scott County, Virginia, Ms. Lane moved to Kingsport, Tennessee, there to begin what would be a forty-year career in the dental and medical field; and

WHEREAS, A member of the American Dental Association, Ms. Lane retired after thirty-one years as Office Manager for Dr. Ralph A. White; she now works as Office Manager for Lane's Outdoor Center in Gate City, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Well-known for her exceptional singing ability, Ms. Lane retired from "The Believers" after eight years with the gospel group, and she now sings with the "Golden Strings Band;" her singular performance of the gospel song "One Day at a Time" has moved many an audience; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Lane has taken to heart the Ms. Senior America Pageant's credo that "it is upon the knowledge, experience, and resources of our senior citizens that the younger generation has the opportunity to build a better society;" she helps to guide the youth of Kingsport as a leader of the Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts; and

WHEREAS, Mary Lane also gives generously of her time to assist the elderly, especially through nutritional programs at the Kingsport Senior Center, and by volunteering to share her remarkable vocal talents; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Lane is a faithful member of the Pilgrims Rest Baptist Church, where she is a member of the Ladies Auxiliary, and volunteers her time as Assistant Sunday School Teacher, Assistant Youth Director, and Assistant Church Secretary and Treasurer; and

WHEREAS, In addition to the honor of being named Ms. Tennessee Senior America 2002, Ms. Lane was specially recognized by the Senior America National Pageant with an Appreciation Award that reads: "America's National Treasure and the Foundation Upon Which Our Youth Can Build a Better Society. November 10-16, 2002. Biloxi, Mississippi;" she was also named Ms. Senior Appalachian Fair 2000; and

WHEREAS, She has appeared as Ms. Tennessee Senior America at a number of functions, including the Southern Women's Show in Nashville, parades, fairs, senior centers, expositions, festivals, churches, and grand openings; she has proudly promoted the Tennessee

Senior America and Senior America, Inc. programs; and she represented Tennessee with grace and dignity at the National Senior America Pageant; and

WHEREAS, Her many accomplishments aside, Ms. Lane is grateful for the love and companionship she shares with Jim, her husband of thirty-eight years, their son, Richard and his wife Karen, and granddaughter Mandi Booher Lewis; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Lane shares her philosophy of life: "I try to put God first in my life—to be the best person I can be, to live one day at a time, and be a blessing to those around me. . . . I always try to maintain a positive attitude and think young. I thank God every day for my wonderful family and friends. . . . They are truly a blessing;" and

WHEREAS, An exceptional lady who believes strongly in reaching for the stars and being passionately engaged in life, but who is also firmly grounded in family values, Christian service, and the joys of everyday life, Ms. Lane is truly a worthy representative and accomplished ambassador for Tennessee, and she should be so honored; and

WHEREAS, This General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Mary Lane for her dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we hereby honor and commend Mary Lane upon her superlative tenure as Ms. Tennessee Senior America 2002, applaud her positive outlook on life and her stalwart commitment to God, family, and community, and extend to her our best wishes for every continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation, with this final clause omitted from such copy.